

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as indicated below.

Please delete paragraph 1 of page 11 of the originally filed Divisional Patent Application, comprising a description of reference numeral 28. This amendment should comport with the request of the Patent Examiner on page 2, item 3 of his Final Office Action, regarding the illustration of reference numeral 28, a cable port rivet (28). The cable port rivet is not essential for a proper understanding of the disclosed invention.

On page 4, paragraph 2, please amend this paragraph to read as follows, the only change being the insertion of the reference numeral "(21)" between the word "stop" and "or", of the paragraph's final sentence. The amendment below should overcome the Patent Examiner's comments on page 3, item 4, regarding specification support for the retractable stop (21). The amended paragraph follows below:

The objectives and advantages of the present Retractable Auxiliary Tailgate invention include its hideaway feature which allows the user to optionally use the Retractable Auxiliary Tailgate by pulling the Retractable Auxiliary Tailgate, out of its hideaway position. The Retractable Auxiliary Tailgate may be tucked away into the primary tailgate (3) of a truck or the like, until the user elects to use the Retractable Auxiliary Tailgate. For some applications, the user may elect to utilize the Retractable Auxiliary Tailgate by placing it in the horizontal open position, and also utilize and open an optional retractable stop (21) or the like, located at the terminal end of said horizontal open Retractable Auxiliary Tailgate.

Please add the following two paragraphs to page 7, following paragraph 4, describing FIG. 11:

FIG. 12 shows an isometric rear view of a Retractable Auxiliary Tailgate in the closed position, and showing a retractable stop (21) in the open position.

FIG. 13 shows an isometric rear view of a Retractable Auxiliary Tailgate in the horizontal open position, and showing a retractable stop (21) in the open position.

CONCLUSION

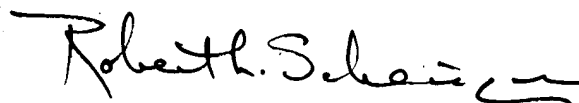
The Applicant and the undersigned greatly appreciate the Patent Examiner's helpful suggestions, and particularly suggested changes to the claim language, and the Examiner's kindness in previewing the Applicant's formal Response to Final Office Action.

The Applicant and undersigned believe they have made the required and requested changes in the drawing figures and previously in the claims, as set forth by the Patent Examiner, and now believe the patent application, with its allowed claims 1 through 3, to be in allowable form. The Patent Examiner is respectfully requested to permit the patent application, with its three claims (1 through 3) to go to Allowance.

If there are any further changes or amendments required to place this patent application in allowable form, and which may be resolved in a telephone interview or Examiner's Amendment, the Patent Examiner is respectfully requested to please call the undersigned.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert N. Schlesinger", with a stylized flourish at the end.

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